Manipulation of Export Concessions

193. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the sugar factories have manipulated the Centre's export concession to free sale of levy sugar for export;

(b) if so, whether the Cooperative Commission of Pune ordered criminal proceedings against 10 cooperative sugar factories (SSKs) in Western Maharashtra for alleged multi-million sugar scam;

(c) if so, whether more sugar factories were under scrutiny; and

(d) if so, the action taken against those who have misused the export stocks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (d) There have been reports of unauthorized sale of sugar released for export purpose in the domestic market. The Government of Maharashtra has informed that it has ordered an enquiry against the concerned sugar factories under section 83 and 88 of the Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act, 1960. and that the Commissioner of Sugar has not ordered any criminal proceedings against the cooperative sugar factories in this connection.

Replacing PDS by Targeted PDS

194. SHRI GAYA SINGH :

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people in the Above Poverty Line group who purchased rice and wheat during each year from the PDS since the PDS was replaced by the Targeted Public Distribution System in June, 1997; and